GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:522
ANSWERED ON:25.07.2001
HEPATITIS-B VACCINATION
DR. KIRIT SOMAIYA

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have finalized the Hepatitis-B Vaccination programme throughout India;

(b) whether Bill Gate Foundation has offered grants for the project;

(c) if so, the details of the project;

(d) the time by which the project was planned and the reasons for the delay;

(e) whether the Government are planning to include Hepatitis-B Vaccination in next Five Year Plan; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a)to(f): The proposal for introduction of Hepatitis B vaccination in selected States and districts, on a pilot basis as a part of the Universal Immunisation Programme has been prepared.Negotiations are in progress with the Global Alliance for Vaccine and Immunization (GAVI) for funding the project.GAVI is being supported by a number of donor agencies and private foundations including the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

The proposal prepared by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare is awaiting clearance from Government; thereafter the Ministry will approach GAVI Board for sanctioning the project.

As regards introduction of the programme in the next Five Year Plan, the question of expanding this programme as a major national scheme in the Five Year Plan can be decided upon only after considering the experiences of implementation of the pilot project and after consultations with other concerned agencies of the Government which are required for introducing new Plan Schemes.